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EXAMINER	
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/500,352	CHOI ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Jessica Roberts	2621	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☒ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date 06/25/2004.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham* **v.** *John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

3. Claims 1-5 and 11-14, 16-18, and 20-21, 23, and 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nelson et al., US-2002/0009137 A1 and in view of Lipton et al., US-5, 416, 5410.

4. Regarding **claim 1,** Nelson teaches A stereoscopic video encoding apparatus that supports multi-display modes based on a user display information, comprising an encoding means for encoding the fields separated in the field separating means by performing motion and disparity compensation (fig. 12); and a multiplexing means for multiplexing the essential fields among the fields received from the encoding means, based on the user display information ([0044]). Nelson is silent in regards to a field separating means for separating right and left-eye input images into an odd field of the

left-eye image (LO), even field of the left-eye image (LE), odd field of the right-eye image (RO), and even field of the right-eye image (RE).

5. However, Lipton discloses a stereoscopic video signal format compatible with the NTSC protocol, with a 4-fold interlace with 262.25 lines/field, and rate of 120 fields per second (fig. 6A and 6B). Lipton further discloses a controller is used unsqueeze and demultiplex the signal before it is displayed on a monitor, the controller can organize the signal to produce a sequence of fields suitable for the display of a stereoscopic video image (column 10 line 7-21).

6. Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Nelson with Liptons' teaching of four fold interlace signal for providing a stereoscopic signal that can be processed to produce flickerless, field-sequential electronic stereoscopic display with good image quality (column 1 line 10-19).

7. Regarding **claim 2,** Nelson is silent in regards to The stereoscopic video encoding apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein the encoding means forms the main layer with the odd field of the left-eye image (LO) and the even field of the right-eye image (RE), a first sub-layer with the even field of the left-eye image (LE).

8. However, Lipton discloses the real time display field sequence and record output field sequence (fig. 24) which has 3 layers formed from the right even and left odd, right odd and left even, and right even and left odd, which exemplifies Lipton creating layers from different combinations of fields for the left and right eye. Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine

the teachings of Nelson with Liptons' teaching of four fold interlace signal for providing a stereoscopic signal that can be processed to produce flickerless, field-sequential electronic stereoscopic display with good image quality (column 1 line 10-19).

9. Regarding **claim 3,** the combination of Nelson and Lipton as a whole teaches everything claimed above, see claim 2. In addition, Nelson teaches stereoscopic video encoding apparatus as recited in claim 2, wherein the encoding means forms the base layer of the main layer with the odd field of the left-eye image (LO) and forms the enhancement layer of the main layer with the even field of the right-eye image (RE) (Nelson discloses the base stream may include information from left view images while the enhancement stream may include information from the right view images [0042], The examiner notes that a left and right view would include the even and odd fields of the images) , and then performs encoding using estimation for motion and disparity compensation (Nelson, [0134] and fig. 12)

10. Regarding **claim 4,** the combination of Nelson and Lipton as a whole teach everything as claimed above, see claim 2. In addition, Nelson teaches The stereoscopic video encoding apparatus as recited in claim 2, wherein the first sub-layer performs the estimation for motion compensation based on the information related to the base layer, and performs the estimation for disparity compensation based on the information related to the enhancement layer (Nelson, [00134] and fig. 12)

11. Regarding **claim 5,** Nelson teaches The stereoscopic video encoding apparatus as recited in claim 2, wherein the second sub-layer performs the estimation for disparity compensation based on the information related to the base layer, and performs the

estimation for motion compensation based on the information related to the enhancement layer (Nelson discloses The enhancement encoding block 402 preferably also includes an enhancement stream encoder 404 for receiving the right view video stream to perform motion based prediction and for encoding the right video stream to the enhancement stream using both the disparity based prediction and motion based prediction ([0134]). Although Nelson is silent in regards to a second sub-layer, Lipton discloses where the record output field sequence contains more than one sub-layer (fig. 24).

12. The combination of Nelson and Lipton as a whole teaches the sub-layer performs estimation for disparity based on information related to the base layer, and motion compensation from information relating to the enhancement layer.

13. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Nelson with Liptons' teaching of the real time display and record output field sequence to minimize record buffer size and leads to a more cost effective implementation (column 26 line 20-24).

14. Regarding **claim 11,** The combination of Nelson and Lipton as a whole teaches everything as claimed above, in addition Nelson teaches The stereoscopic video encoding apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein the user display information includes a three-dimensional field shuttering display, a three-dimensional frame shuttering display, and a two-dimensional display ([0060] , [0098], fig. 2:112 and fig. 6. Nelson further discloses the broadcasting system may also support production of non-standard video streams for two-dimensional (2D) or 3D applications [0030])

15. Regarding **claim 12,** Nelson teaches The stereoscopic video encoding apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein the multiplexing means multiplexes the odd field of the left-eye image (LO) and the even field of the right-eye image (RE), in case where the user display information indicates a three-dimensional field shuttering display ([0060]). Nelson further teaches alternate left and right video fields preferably are presented to the viewer by means of actively shuttered glasses, which are synchronized with the alternate interlaced fields (or alternate frames) produced by standard televisions ([0030]).

16. Regarding **claim 14,** Nelson teaches The stereoscopic video encoding apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein the multiplexing means multiplexes the odd field of the left-eye image (LO), and even field of the left-eye image (LE), in case where the user display information indicates a two-dimensional display (The broadcast system as disclosed by Nelson supports production of two-dimensional (2D) applications ([0030]), therefore, it is clear to the examiner that only the field of one eye (left or right) would need to be multiplexed, since the image or picture is flat or lacking depth).

17. Regarding **claim 16,** Nelson teaches The stereoscopic video decoding apparatus as recited in claim 15, wherein the user display information includes a three-dimensional field shuttering display ([0060], [0098], fig.2: 112 and fig. 6), and a two-dimensional display (Nelson discloses the 3D broadcasting system may also support production of non-standard video streams for two dimensional applications [0030]) Nelson is silent in regards to a three-dimensional frame shuttering display.

18. However, Lipton discloses the present invention is independent of the particular selection technique employed, and will work with any properly engineered individual shuttering device, column 12 line 4-23, which reads upon the claimed invention).

19. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Nelson with Lipton for providing a stereoscopic signal that can be processed to produce flickerless, field-sequential electronic stereoscopic display with good image quality (column 1 line 10-19).

20. Regarding **claim 17,** Nelson teaches in case where the user display mode indicates a three-dimensional field shuttering display ([0060], [0098], fig. 2:112, and fig. 6). Nelson is silent in regards to The stereoscopic video decoding apparatus as recited in claim 15, wherein the inverse-multiplexing means inverse-multiplexes the bit stream into the odd field of the left-eye image (LO) and the even field of the right-eye image (RE).

21. However, Lipton teaches the inverse multiplexing means inverse-multiplexes the bit stream into the odd field of the left-eye image (LO) and the even field of the right-eye image (RE) (column 15 line 43-52).

22. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Nelson with the teachings of Lipton for providing a stereoscopic signal that can be processed to produce flickerless, field-sequential electronic stereoscopic display with good image quality (column 1 line 10-19).

23. Regarding **claim 18,** Nelson is silent in regards to The stereoscopic video decoding apparatus as recited in claim 15, wherein the inverse-multiplexing means inverse-multiplexes the bit stream into the odd field of the left-eye image (LO), even field of the left-eye image (LE), odd field of the right-eye image (RO), and the even field of the right-eye image (RE), in case where the user display mode indicates a three dimensional frame shuttering display.

24. However, Lipton discloses demultiplexing the signal into a four-field sequence (left odd, right odd, left even, right even) column 10 line 7-21 and fig. 6A. Lipton further discloses where the display field sequence contains right even, left odd, right odd, left even...etc. fig. 24, and where the present invention is independent of the particular selection technique employed, and will work with any properly engineered individual shuttering device, column 12 line 4-23, which reads upon the claimed invention). The combination of Nelson and Lipton as a whole discloses the claimed invention except for the field order of the bit stream is LO, LE, RO, and RE. It would have been an obvious matter of design choice to order field sequence of the image being generated to LO, LE, RO, and RE since applicant has not disclosed that the sequence of LO, LE, RO, and RE solves any stated problem or is for any particular purpose and it appears that the invention would perform equally well with displaying the pictures from images decoded the RE, LO, RO, and LE sequence.

25. Regarding **claim 20,** Nelson is silent in regards to The stereoscopic video decoding apparatus as recited in claim 15, wherein the display means displays an image that is decoded from the odd field of the left-eye image (LO), and an image that is

decoded from the even field of the right-eye image (RE) at predetermined time intervals, in case where the user display mode indicates a three-dimensional field shuttering display.

26. However, Lipton discloses the relative timing sequence of the record output field sequence which contains an even sequence generated from a right even and left odd (fig. 24). Lipton further teaches the images are displayed at 1/120 sec per frame (fig. 6A). Lipton discloses where the present invention will work with any properly engineered individual shutter selecting device (column 12 line 4-23).

27. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Nelson with the teachings of Lipton for providing a stereoscopic signal that can be processed to produce flickerless, field-sequential electronic stereoscopic display with good image quality (column 1 line 10-19).

28. Regarding **claim 21,** Nelson is silent regarding The stereoscopic video decoding apparatus as recited in claim 15, wherein the display means displays an image that is decoded from the odd field of the left-eye image (LO), an image decoded from the even field of the left-eye image(LE), an image decoded from the odd field of the right-eye image (RO), and an image decoded from the even field of the right-eye image (RE) at predetermined time intervals, in case where the user display mode indicates a three-dimensional frame shuttering display.

29. Lipton discloses the output field sequence is generated from RE, LO, RO, and LE fields (fig. 24). Lipton also discloses wherein the four field display is in field sequential

format and has a display of 1/120s (fig. 6A). Lipton discloses the present invention is independent of the particular selection technique employed, and will work with any properly engineered individual shuttering device, column 12 line 4-23, which reads upon the claimed invention).

30. The combination of Nelson and Lipton as a whole have the majority of the features of claim 21, but still fails to disclose the display means displays an image decoded from the odd field of the left eye, an image decoded from the even field of the left eye, and image decoded from the odd field of the right eye, and an image decoded from even field of the right eye. It would have been an obvious matter of design choice to order the image being generated in the sequence of LO, LE, RO, and RE since applicant has not disclosed that the sequence of LO, LE, RO, and RE solves any stated problem or is for any particular purpose and it appears that the invention would perform equally well with displaying the pictures from images decoded the RE, LO, RO, and LE.

31. Regarding **claim 23,** which recite a corresponding method to the encoding apparatus of claims 1-14. Thus the rejection and analysis made in claims 1-14 also apply here because the apparatus would have necessarily performed the method steps in claim 23.

32. Regarding **claim 25,** the analysis and rejection made in claim 1-14 also apply here. The combination of Nelson, Lipton, and Wu as whole teach a microprocessor based system. Hence a computer processor for executing the necessary steps corresponding to the apparatus of claims 1-14 would have been inherent.

33.

34. Claims 6-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nelson et al., US-2002/0009137 and in view of Lipton et al., US-5, 416,510 and in further view of Wu et al., US-6, 614,936.

35. Regarding **claim 6,** Nelson teaches The stereoscopic video encoding apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein the encoding means forms the main layer with the odd field of the left-eye image (LO), a first sub-layer with the even field of the right-eye image (RE) ([0042]). Nelson is silent in regards to a second sub-layer with the even field of the left-eye image (LE), and a third sub-layer with the odd field of the right-eye image (RO).

36. However, Lipton discloses the real time display field sequence and record output field sequence (fig. 24) which has 3 layers formed from the right even and left odd, right odd and left even, and right even and left odd, which exemplifies Lipton creating layers from different combinations of fields for the left and right eye.

37. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Nelson with Liptons' teaching of the real time display and record output field sequence to minimize record buffer size and leads to a more cost effective implementation (column 26 line 20-24).

38. The combination of Nelson and Lipton as a whole are silent in regards to a third sub-layer, however, Wu teaches multiple enhancement layers (fig. 4 and 5).

39. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Nelson and Lipton with Wus' teaching of multiple enhancement layers for providing a coding scheme that where the difference

between any two layers, even if small, can be used by the decoder to improve the image quality (column 5 line 33-42).

40. Regarding **claim 7,** the combination of Nelson, Lipton and Wu as whole teaches everything as claim above, see claim 6. In addition, Nelson teaches The stereoscopic video encoding apparatus as recited in claim 6, wherein the main layer performs the estimation for motion compensation based on the information related to the main layer (fig. 12:410).

41. Regarding **claim 8,** the combination of Nelson, Lipton and Wu as a whole teaches everything as claimed above, see claim 6. In addition, Nelson teaches The stereoscopic video encoding apparatus as recited in claim 6, wherein the first sub-layer performs the estimation for motion compensation based on the information related to the first sub-layer, and performs the estimation for disparity compensation based on the information related to the main layer (Nelson teaches performing estimation for motion compensation based on the sub-layer (enhancement layer) and performing estimation for disparity compensation from information relating to the main (base) layer ([0134] and fig. 12).

42. Regarding **claim 9,** Nelson teaches The stereoscopic video encoding apparatus as recited in claim 6, wherein the second sub-layer performs the estimation for motion compensation based on the information related to the main layer and the second sub-layer (Nelson teaches where the enhancement layer performs estimation for motion compensation ([0134] and fig. 12).

43. Nelson is silent in regards to a second sub-layer, however, Wu teaches multiple enhancement layers (fig. 4 and 5). The combination of Nelson, Lipton and Wu as a whole teaches performing estimation for motion compensation for a second sub-layer. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Nelson and Lipton with the teachings of Wus' multiple enhancement layers for providing a coding scheme that where the difference between any two layers, even if small, can be used by the decoder to improve the image quality (column 5 line 33-42).

44. Regarding **claim 10,** Nelson teaches The stereoscopic video encoding apparatus as recited in claim 6, wherein the third sub-layer performs the estimation for motion compensation based on the information related to the first sub-layer, and performs the estimation for disparity compensation based on the information related to the main layer. (Nelson teaches performing estimation for motion compensation based on the sub-layer (enhancement layer) and performing estimation for disparity compensation from information relating to the main (base) layer ([0134] and fig. 12).

45. Nelson is silent in regards to a third sub-layer, however Wu teaches a multiple enhancement layers (fig. 4 and 5). The combination of Nelson, Lipton and Wu as a whole teaches a performing estimation for disparity compensation and motion compensation for information relating to the base layer from the third sub-layer.

46. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Nelson and Lipton with Wus' teaching of multiple enhancement layers for providing a coding scheme that where the difference

between any two layers, even if small, can be used by the decoder to improve the image quality (column 5 line 33-42).

47. Claim 13 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nelson et al., US-2002/0009137 and in view of Lipton et al., US-5, 416,510 and in further view of Oshima et al., US-6, 574, 423.

48. Regarding **claim 13,** Nelson is silent regarding The stereoscopic video encoding apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein the multiplexing means multiplexes the odd field of the left-eye image (LO), the even field of the left-eye image (LE), the odd field of the right-eye image (RO), and the even field of the right-eye image (RE), in the case where the user display information indicates a three-dimensional frame shuttering display.

49. However Lipton discloses representing a stereoscopic video signal format compatible with the NTSC protocol, with a 4-fold interlace with 262.25 lines/field, and a rate of 120 fields/sec (fig. 6A). Further, Lipton discloses the present invention is independent of the particular selection technique employed, and will work with any properly engineered individual shuttering device, column 12 line 4-23, which reads upon the claimed invention.

50. Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Nelson with Liptons' teaching of four fold interlace signal for providing a stereoscopic signal that can be processed to produce flickerless, field-sequential electronic stereoscopic display with good image quality (column 1 line 10-19).The combination of Nelson and Lipton are silent in regards

to explicitly teaching the multiplexing means multiplexes the odd field of the left-eye image (LO), the even field of the left-eye image (LE), the odd field of the right-eye image (RO), and the even field of the right-eye image (RE). However, Oshima teaches multiplexing the left field (even and odd) and the right field (even and odd), fig. 23). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Nelson and Lipton with Oshimas' teachings of multiplexing the left even and odd field and the right even and odd fields for providing a more cost effective signal processing of stereoscopic signals.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

51. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

52. Claims 15, 24, and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Nelson et al., US-2002/009137A1.

53. Regarding **claim 15,** Nelson teaches A stereoscopic video decoding apparatus that supports multi-display modes based on a user display information, comprising: an inverse-multiplexing means for multiplexing supplied bit stream to be suitable for the user display information (fig. 12: 414); a decoding means for decoding the field inverse-multiplexed in the inverse-multiplexing means by performing estimation for motion and

disparity compensation (fig. 12:418, 420, 422); and a display means for displaying an image decoded in the decoding means based on the user display information ([0054] and fig. 1:46).

54. **claim 24,** which recite a corresponding method of the decoding apparatus of claims 15-22. Thus the rejection and analysis made in claims 15-22 also apply here because the apparatus would have necessarily performed the method steps in claim 24.

55. **claim 26,** the analysis and rejection made in claims 15-22 also apply here. The combination of Nelson and Lipton as a whole teach a microprocessor base system. Hence a microprocessor for executing the necessary steps corresponding to the apparatus of claims 15-22 would have been inherent.

56. Claims 19 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nelson et al., US-2002/0009137 A1.

57. Regarding **claim 19,** Nelson teaches The stereoscopic video decoding apparatus as recited in claim 15, wherein the inverse-multiplexing means inverse-multiplexes the bit stream into the odd field of the left-eye image (LO), and even field of the left-eye image (LE), in case where the user display mode indicates a two-dimensional display (The broadcast system as disclosed by Nelson supports production of two-dimensional (2D) applications ([0030]), Further, Nelson discloses when the set-top box is used by the viewer is not equipped to decoded the enhancement stream he or she is still capable of watching the 3D stream in 2D on the display monitor [0051] and fig. 1. Therefore, it is clear to the examiner that only the field of one eye (left or right) would need to be demultiplexed, since the image or picture is flat or lacking depth).

58. Regarding **claim 22,** Nelson teaches The stereoscopic video decoding apparatus as recited in claim 15, wherein the display means displays an image that is decoded from the odd field of the left-eye image (LO), and an image decoded from the even field of the left-eye image (LE) simultaneously, in case where the user display mode indicates a two-dimensional display (The broadcast system as disclosed by Nelson supports production of two-dimensional (2D) applications ([0030]), therefore, it is clear to the examiner that only the field of one eye (left or right) would need to be decoded together in order to produce a flat image or an image that lacks depth).

Examiner's Note

1. The referenced citations made in the rejection(s) above are intended to exemplify areas in the prior art document(s) in which the examiner believed are the most relevant to the claimed subject matter. However, it is incumbent upon the applicant to analyze the prior art document(s) in its/their entirety since other areas of the document(s) may be relied upon at a later time to substantiate examiner's rationale of record. A prior art reference must be considered in its entirety, i.e., as a whole, including portions that would lead away from the claimed invention. W.L. Gore & associates, Inc. v. Garlock, Inc., 721 F.2d 1540, 220 USPQ 303 (Fed. Cir. 1983), cert. denied, 469 U.S. 851 (1984). However, "the prior art's mere disclosure of more than one alternative does not constitute a teaching away from any of these alternatives because such disclosure does not criticize, discredit, or otherwise discourage the solution claimed...." In re Fulton, 391 F.3d 1195, 1201, 73 USPQ2d 1141, 1146 (Fed. Cir. 2004).

Conclusion

2. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

3. Tahara et al., US-5, 633,682 Stereoscopic coding system

4. Haskell et al., US-6, 055,012 Digital multi-view video compression with complexity and capability

5. Yun et al,. US-2003/0095177 3D stereoscopic/multiview video processing system and its method

6. Stuettler et al., US-5, 870,137 Method and device for displaying stereoscopic video images

7. Werner et al., US-6, 906,687 Digital formatter for 3-dimensional display applications

8. Kaji et al., US-6, 501,468 Stereoscopic display device and recording media recorded program for image processing of the display device

Contact

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jessica Roberts whose telephone number is (571) 270-1821. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30-5:00 EST Monday-Friday, Alt Friday off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Marsha D. Banks-Harold can be reached on (571) 272-7905. The fax

phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Marsha D Banks-Harold

MARSHA D. BANKS-HAROLD
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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/JMR/